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## HE FAVERS SUNDAY OPENING STRONG AND THE BAR-ROOMS. SUGGESTING THAT THEY DO BUSINESS ONLY AFTER 2 O'CLOCK.

## THE MAYOR DEFINES HIS ATTITUDE.

PERSONALLY HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE LIQUOR-SHOPS CLOSED ALL DAY SUNDAY, BUT HE FACES THE FACTS AND WILL ENDEAVOR

TO SETTLE THE VEXED QUESTION SATIS-

FACTORY—URGING THE DEALERS TO

AGREE UPON SOME RULE GOVERN-

ING SALES ON THAT DAY WHICH

MAY BE EMBODIED IN LEGIS-

LATION, IF POSSIBLE—DR.

PARKHURST AMAZED.

Mayer Strong announced himself yesterday as willing to try the experiment of liquor-selling on Sundays. He went so far as to suggest that the liquor-dealers keep their places open on Sunday from 2 to 10 p.m., instead of doing it all day Sunday, as most of them do. He thought that such an arrangement acquiesced in generally might prove beneficial and do away with existing prejudices on the subject of selling liquor on Sunday. The result might be the passage of a law permitting the sale of liquor after 2 p.m. on Sundays.

The Mayor's views were promulgated at a conference with a committee representing the Liquor Dealers' Central Association, which visited him yesterday afternoon.

The Mayor, after the conference, said that he did not mean to assure the liquor-dealers any protection in violating the law by Sunday liquor-selling.

"I thought," he explained, "that if I could get them to close up half of Sunday they would only sell half as much as they have been. That would be a step in the direction of reform."

The committee went in pursuance of an arrangement made with the Mayor last week by Henry Hirsch, president of the Central Association. Besides Mr. Hirsch there were Morris Te-kulsky, president of the State Liquor-Dealers' Association; B. T. Kearns, Daniel Holland, F. G. Rein, John McGary, Ferdinand Courtney and Christopher Baylen. Mr. Hirsch started in to act as spokesman, but Mr. Te-kulsky soon demonstrated superior abilities in that line and superseded him.

The conversation began with a request from Mr. Hirsch for the appointment by the Mayor of a new Excise Board, and also that the Mayor give expression to his views on the liquor traffic and the Excise laws. The Mayor replied that he had decided against the appointment of an Excise Board until the power of Removal bill became a law.

## MANY APPLICATIONS FOR COMMISSIONER-SHIPS.

"I have more applications for places in the Excise Board than for any other Commissionerships," he said. "There are now between eighty or ninety applications. It is a mystery to me why they are so sought after. I want to investigate and find out why Excise Commissionerships are so attractive. Are you all retailers?" the Mayor asked, looking over the crowd.

He was answered in the affirmative.

"Do any of you pay anything to get your licenses over and above the regular license fee?" the Mayor asked.

A smile went around the group while the members of the committee assured the Mayor that they paid only the legal fees.

The Mayor said that good lawyers advised him that he could not remove the present Excise Board until May 1 without special legislative enactment. As long as a question as to his right to remove the board existed he should refuse to act.

Mr. Te-kulsky assured the Mayor of the extreme anxiety of the liquor men to get "a good Excise Board"—"as anxious as you are yourself," he added. "We will not recommend anybody for appointment, however. All we ask is that the Commissioners shall be honest men, and just."

The Mayor assured them of his purpose to try to name such a board. Then he swung around suddenly and asked:

"By-the-way, boys, do you keep open on Sundays?"

Another broad smile went around the faces of the Mayor's visitors. The Mayor returned it with a similar smile, supplemented with a little chuckle. There was a sort of backwoods shuck about answering Colonel Strong's query until Morris Te-kulsky said:

"There may be one or two among us who can honestly say that they never sold anything on Sunday."

"A LEGITIMATE BUSINESS."

"Well, never mind," replied the Mayor, good-naturedly. "It may have been a delicate point to touch on. The fact is, you are conducting a business that is just as legitimate as any other, and you should be protected in your rights, which are well defined by law. But you must remember that there is scarcely any business that is prosecuted more than six days in the week. You have it in your own hands to help me in an effort to secure a fair and just regulation of your business. You are all for good government, of course. I haven't had a better-looking lot of men before me since I took office. I don't say this by way of 'taffy,' either. The point to arrive at is a proper regulation of your business. The existing laws should be enforced, but if they are not right they should be amended. For my self personally, I may say that I am in favor of the Dow law in force in Ohio."

Mr. Te-kulsky said:

"That law, sir, has been greatly overrated. We New-York dealers are fully informed about it. It was the result of accident. The temperance people got into the Constitution, so that liquor licenses could not be granted. The temperance folks thought that meant prohibition. Instead it meant free rum, and the only recourse was to put a tax on the trade, a license being prohibited. When

Dr. PARKHURST GRIEVED.

The Rev. Dr. Parkhurst appeared to be deeply grieved last evening on account of the reports which had been received concerning Mayor Strong's talk with the representatives of the liquor-dealers. He said to a Tribune reporter:

"My mind does not work in such a way that I can believe that Mayor Strong has openly advised the liquor-dealers to keep their places open on Sunday. If he had told them that they might open out what the public thought, trying to keep them from breaking the law is quite another thing. The liquor-dealers have kept their places open in defiance of law right along, except when Superintendent Byrnes had a fit or a spasm. I have thought that Mayor Strong was a man who would go carefully. If he has really said to the liquor men what he is reported to have said, he shall be greatly disgruntled."

It is conceded that the greatest objection to the saloon is the part it plays in politics. Nowhere is the saloon more in politics as in Ohio. It fears failure in the Excise law, and he replied: "I am not going to say anything to-night on that subject. I may have something to say later, but not now. What I have said does not bear at all on the question of Sunday closing under a different law. Perhaps the present law is wrong, but that makes no difference. I have a right to keep the law, and the way to break it is. I cannot tell you what the effect of the Mayor's reported position may be on the ultra-temperance men and the temperance men who supported the reform ticket in the last election. I believe that a great many prohibitionists supported Colonel Strong on account of the principles which he was supposed to represent. I cannot yet believe that he has taken his stand in opposition to the measure."

Mr. Smart (Dem.), of Warren County, said he would like to explain his views. Said he: "I vote against this resolution because it overrides the plain letter and word of the Constitution, and I consider it unconstitutional."

Mr. Wadell (Rep.) at once introduced a protest, signed by all the Republican members of the House, against the passage of the resolution. The protest quotes the provision of the State Constitution on the subject, gives various grounds on which the protest is based and ends as follows:

"For the above reasons we protest against the high-handed and revolutionary methods outlined by the resolution, and we ask that this protest be entered of record on the journal of the House."

The protest was, on motion, ordered spread on the minutes. The resolution having passed both houses, the next step of the Democratic majority will be the enactment of the Caldwell bill providing for an investigation of charges of fraud in the collection of \$700,000,000, and will probably be reported to-morrow, and will be pushed through both branches. The measures provide for an investigation before any official publication of the certified returns is made. Governor Turney will continue to occupy his seat in the mean time, although, according to precedent, January 15 (to-day), was originally suggested; so that the announcement, when made, came like a thunderclap from a clear

"MOSE" GUNST REMOVED FROM OFFICE.

HE DENIES THE AUTHORITY OF GOVERNOR GUNST.

AND WILL MAKE A CONTEST IN THE COURTS.

San Francisco, Jan. 15 (Special).—"Mose" Gunst, the cigar-dealer and part owner in a gambling club and saloon, after nine days in office as Police Commissioner of San Francisco, had his official head lopped off to-day by Governor Budd, who appointed Stewart Menzies in his place. The new Governor gave his decision of the Attorney-General, and his decision advised of the new Commissioner. The State Constitution, which provides that when the term of an officer or commissioner is not prescribed by law, such officer shall hold his position during the pleasure of the authority

year, and Mr. Murray was presented by the Crosby Society with a set of engraved resolutions that would fill that frame and Mr. Te-kulsky pointed to the full-length portrait of Lafayette over the mantelpiece) in recognition of his good work.

" Didn't the arrests do any good?" asked the Mayor.

THE ARRESTS WORKED HARM.

"On the contrary, they worked harm. They resulted in the corruption of the police force," replied Te-kulsky. " On 'dry' Sunday you could see more men loaded than on a Sunday when the side doors were open."

"I've been in the habit of spending my Sundays at home," said the Mayor. "I guess I'll have to get out and see some of those things."

Mr. Hirsch suggested that the Mayor have a talk with the Superintendent of Police and see if the liquor-dealers might be less harshly treated. But the Mayor took no notice which he will be acceptable to all the societies which have been holding mass-meetings.

making the appointment, but in no case shall the term exceed four years.

There is a conflicting provision under which some lawyers think Gunst can successfully defy the Governor, and Gunst declared this was the view of the majority of the legal authorities. He feels very sure over the way he has been treated, and asserts that it is due to malice. Gunst seems unable to see that his close connection with gambling places and saloons made him unfit to sit on the Police Board. Menzies is of English birth. He has large means, and has been prominently identified with several movements to secure good government. He will be acceptable to all the societies which have been holding mass-meetings.

SEVENTY-FIVE KILLED.

HAVOC CAUSED BY THE EXPLOSION OF

POWDER CARS.

PIREMEN OF BUTTE, MONTANA, SLAIN AT THEIR WORK—SCORES OF DEAD BODIES PICKED UP

—MANY PERSONS MAIMED AND THE ENTIRE TOWN TURNED IN-

TO A HOSPITAL.

BUTTE, Mont., Jan. 15.—At a fire at the Montana Central Railway Yards this evening several cars of powder caught fire and exploded with tremendous force, killing seventy-five people, firemen and spectators, and maiming many others. There were three separate explosions, the first two breaking nearly every window within a radius of two miles.

The fire attracted a large crowd, and hundreds were standing near when the first explosion occurred. Men and women were mown down like grass before a scythe, but many were stunned by the force of the terrific explosion. Wreckage from cars and adjoining buildings was scattered high in the air for half a mile away, many of the flying articles striking people in the crowd. Every ambulance, vehicle and doctor in town was soon on the scene carrying off the dead and wounded. The ground was strewn like a battlefield with the injured and dead. Owing to the fact that there were several cars of powder on the track and the report that one of the burning warehouses also contained a quantity of powder, few dared, after the first explosion, to venture to the assistance of the injured. When they did they were met by the second explosion like a racking fire from an army. The second was soon followed by the third, and the heavens were lighted with flame. The reports were heard and the shock felt for miles.

After the third explosion the hospital corps and police began the work of picking up the dead and caring for the wounded. Fifteen dead bodies were piled together, many of them being mangled to such an extent that they were not identified in the excitement. Every house in the vicinity was turned into a hospital. The scene after the explosion was beyond all description. Men and women wrung their hands and cried in agony. It is said that every fireman was either killed or fatally wounded.

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"Personal, I would like to see the saloons closed on Sunday. But I realize that that would not be considered and that others have rights. Now, if I were you, I would get together and agree with the other people a sense plan for the regulation of the conduct of your business on Sunday—for instance, sales between 2 and 11 o'clock Sunday afternoon."

"Make it 1 o'clock," said Holland.

"Oh, I'm not going to recommend any hours," replied the Mayor. "What I want you to do is to agree on some rule, and I will help us in settling this people's question."

"Te-kulsky means to be fair," was the Mayor's reply.

"That's right," interjected Te-kulsky. "Parkhurst wants something in the way of a law that will give us what we are talking about."

THE QUESTION OF HOURS.

The Mayor suggested that 1 o'clock was too early to open saloons on Sunday, as all church services were not over at that hour. He then said: "Now, you boys can do something to help me to lessen the severe public criticism which would follow a radical change in the law. If you will get together and agree on hours for Sunday business and start in on that line we will see if we can't make some progress toward harmonizing the two people to the change."

"How about dealers who are not in our association?" asked President Hirsch.

"Don't you think that I can make the rest come into camp?" asked Mayor Strong, with a twinkle in his eye.

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